



NEWS RELEASE

City of Eugene
99 W. 10th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401
(541) 682-5443
(541) 682-5572 FAX
www.eugene-or.gov

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Contact: Susan Muir, Planning and Development Executive Manager, 682-6077

City Ready for Inn at the Market Proposal

Mayor Kitty Piercy participated in the news conference this morning announcing the pending development of a high quality boutique hotel at the Fifth Street Market. During the announcement, owner Brian Obie cited the pre-development support he has received from the City of Eugene's Planning and Development Department for the project.

"We are ready for a proposal like this in our downtown," said Susan Muir, executive director of the Planning and Development Department. "This project is in line with what we want to see downtown - more people and 24-hour vibrancy. It reinforces our downtown as the center of our community."

The City has taken a number of steps over the last few years to be ready for projects such as this one and help them move forward successfully:

- As an incentive for downtown development, the City waives land use application fees for all applications in the downtown.
- The City of Eugene provides fast track building plan review for projects in downtown. This will get plans through the process 25-50% faster than average review time.
- Building inspections for downtown projects are guaranteed same-day service.

For this specific project, the Planning and Development Department has designated a staff team in advance to help the owners navigate the land use and building processes. The team has met with project representatives a number of times already, and will guide the developer through the conditional use permit process which will resolve any land use issues, including any issues raised from the neighborhood.

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